CODE STACK!

RULES SUMMARY

CODE STACK features multiple ways to play—this summary includes two different versions. All versions of the game start with the same base rules. For young players, start with three-letter words; when playing with children of different ages (or with parents), younger players form longer words for the older players to guess and older players form shorter words for the younger players to guess.

SET UP
1. Give each player a Code Card. All Code Cards are identical.
2. Place the box base, with all of the Code Stack Code Discs, in the center of the table within easy reach of all players.

OBJECT OF THE GAME
To earn points by correctly guessing other players' secret words.

BASE RULES
1. Players agree on the length of the words they'll make for this round, then each player secretly thinks of a word of that length to use as their secret word.
2. Each Code Disc stands for one of three or more letters, as shown on the Code Cards. For example, the green Code Disc could be either A, B, or C, depending on what secret word a player decides to make.
3. Players select the Code Discs needed to form their secret words and stack them up in order.
4. The Code Disc on the top of a stack is the first letter of the secret word, the second disc from the top is the second letter, and so on.
5. Players earn points when they correctly guess secret words.

CODE STACK 1
1. Take the Code Discs needed to form your secret word and secretly stack them up (in the correct order, with the first letter on top of the stack) behind your hand.
2. The youngest player shouts, "Code Stack!" and all players lift their hands to reveal their words.

3. When players think they know another player's secret word, they call out that player's name and the word. If they are correct, they grab that player's stack and earn one point. Play continues until all secret words have been correctly called out.
4. Younger players may call out any word that works with the Code Discs in a stack to earn a point; older players must call out the exact secret word (players can write down their secret words ahead of time, if they like).
5. The first player to earn 7 points wins the game.

CODE STACK 2
1. The youngest player closes his/her eyes and picks a Code Disc from the box and places it on the table. The player to the youngest player's left closes his/her eyes and picks another Code Disc to put on top of the Code Disc the youngest player drew.
2. This continues until the agreed-upon number of letters are stacked on the table.
3. The youngest player shouts, "Code Stack!" and players race to call out as many words as they can that fit with the stack of discs.
4. Players earn one point for each word they call out that fits with the stack. Play continues until 45 seconds pass with no words called out, or until players agree that there are no more words they can form.
5. The first player to earn 15 points wins the game (this number will vary based on the number of players).

CODE STACK can be played solitaire using the rules from CODE STACK 2—players count how many rounds it takes them to reach 20 points, trying to reach it in the smallest number of rounds.